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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/581,565	06/15/2000	THOMAS HAHN	5138	1039

7590 04/26/2002

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EXAMINER

BUDD, MARK OSBORNE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2834

DATE MAILED: 04/26/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

581 565

Applicant(s)

~~SP. Eng. Robert Hahn et al~~

Examiner

Budd

Group Art Unit

2834

---The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet beneath the correspondence address---

Period for Response

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a response be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for response specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a response within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for response is specified above, such period shall, by default, expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to respond within the set or extended period for response will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Status

- ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 4-2-02
- ☐ This action is **FINAL**.
- ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- ☒ Claim(s) 13-22 is/are pending in the application.
- Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- ☒ Claim(s) 13, 16 and 17 is/are rejected.
- ☒ Claim(s) 14, 15 and 18-22 is/are objected to.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

- ☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.
- ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.
- ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d)

- ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- ☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been received.
- ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____
- ☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 1.7.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____
- ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413
- ☐ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- ☐ Other _____

Office Action Summary

Art Unit: 2834

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

Claims 13, 16 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by O'Brien or Sekler.

O'Brien (figs. 1 and 3) teaches a piezoelectric substrate with electrodes on each side with circuit elements, including resistors, mounted on an electrodes outer portion of the piezo element. Note R1 and R2 are connected in series with the electrodes and R3 is connected in parallel to the electrodes. Sekler (Figs. 2 and 3) shows a piezoelectric resonator substrate with a resistor placed on the non-elected edge region. Sekler does not explicitly teach whether the resistor is connected in series or parallel with the piezo electrodes. However, since it is clear that both are connected to the same two terminals for input/output they must be connected in either series or parallel. It is noted that the preamble recitation of "A piezoelectric ultrasound transmitter" does not provide any corresponding structure that limits the claimed structure of a substrate, electrodes, resistor etc. It is further noted that the "such that ---" phrase in both independent claims is merely a statement of desired function which lacks any corresponding structure to perform the function on differentiate the claimed structure from the prior art structure. Thus, aside from the statement that the same structure is desired to behave differently, there is no difference (structurally).

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Claims 14, 15 and 18-22 objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Budd/ds

04/24/02

MARK O. BUDD
PRIMARY EXAMINER
ART UNIT 217